

with his dedication to playing, promoting, and recording its musicians," said Caryn G. Mathes, WAMU 88.5's General Manager. "His booming, resonant voice is synonymous with the sound of bluegrass at WAMU, and his willingness to explore broadcasting on multiple new media platforms as radio evolves has been an inspiration to me."

Davis began his radio career at the age of 15, when he left his boyhood home in Wango, MD, for a job at WDOV-AM in Dover, DE. He had jobs at other small town stations around the country, as well as a stint south of the border at XERF, the Mexican mail-order station that made Wolfman Jack famous, where he learned to be a radio pitchman. Davis returned to the east coast and spent 38 years hosting a popular bluegrass program from Johnny's Used Cars for WBMD in Baltimore, MD. In 1962, he began recording some of the Nation's finest bluegrass musicians and selling these recordings under his own label, Wango.

Davis hosts bluegrass festivals and concerts around the country, including the Delaware Valley Bluegrass Festival, and the Arcadia Music Festival. He also produces 15 hours of bluegrass music each week for WAMU's Bluegrass Country. When he's not acting as program host or concert emcee, chances are Davis is holed up in his basement studio producing CDs from hundreds of bluegrass tapes he's recorded over the years. Since the 1960s, Davis has been enlisting friends like Carter and Ralph Stanley, Don Reno, Bill Harrell, the Warrior River Boys, the Gillis Brothers, Owen Saunders, and a host of others to make his so-called "basement tapes." The basement tapes include previously unreleased jam sessions with many of these legendary bluegrass artists.

American University's radio station since 1961, WAMU 88.5 is the leading public radio station for NPR news and information in the greater Washington, DC, area with more than 650,000 listeners in the region. WAMU 88.5 is "your NPR news station in the Nation's capital."

HONORING OUR COMMITMENT TO FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VET- ERANS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I stand before you this evening to discuss the plight of some 20,000 brave men who defended our country during World War II but have been neglected in their old age. I refer to the Filipino nationals who fought with American soldiers as part of the Recognized Guerilla Forces.

Madam Speaker, the sacrifice and suffering of these brave warriors has been well-documented. Without their support, some say, American forces likely would have been outmanned and outgunned at many of the decisive battles in the Pacific Theater during World War II. But because of an unfair designation set into law, our government treats one class of Filipino veteran differently than another.

In the days and months following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, more than 250,000 Filipino nationals swore allegiance to

the United States of America with the same oath each of us took when we became Members of this body. They fought side-by-side with our fathers and grandfathers and suffered casualties at a far higher rate than native-born American forces. In return, the Filipino soldiers were promised the same benefits and support as their American counterparts. In fact, in October of 1945, Gen. Omar Bradley, then Administrator of the Veterans Administration, reaffirmed that they would be treated like any other veterans.

But The Rescission Acts of 1946 changed that. As happens all too often in the halls of power, short-sighted political expediency won out over fairness and common decency. Faced with massive war debts, Congress excluded a class of veteran that had no voice and no vote. Since then, piecemeal attempts have been made to rectify the inequities of The Rescission Acts, but time is clearly working against us.

Today, the few Filipino veterans who are still living are in their eighties. Their number is estimated to be at or around 20,000, with 7,000 living in the United States. Many of those veterans reside in my district, which boasts the largest number of Filipino Americans in the nation.

Madam Speaker, I am not asking for special consideration. I am not seeking an earmark or a windfall or a handout. I am simply asking that we, as a nation, honor the promise we made to the brave souls who put their very lives on the line for the sake of America and all it stands for. Let us show our gratitude to the few remaining Filipino World War II veterans and restore the benefits due them and promised to them when they, like all of us here, raised their right hands and swore: I do solemnly swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. REBECCA MILLS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor Dr. Rebecca Mills, Ed.D by entering her name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Dr. Rebecca Mills for her service to the students at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and would like to commend her for her dedication and commitment to higher education.

Receiving her doctorate in secondary education, Rebecca attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. After receiving her doctorate degree, she joined the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1987 as an assistant professor in the Department of Instructional and Curricular Studies. She would later become associate professor and then a full professor within the College of Education.

In 1998, she was appointed to the position of Senior Advisor to the President of the University, serving for two years before being named the Interim Vice President for Student Life in April 2001, where she served until her retirement in 2008. In this role, Rebecca

worked with over 400 individuals to provide services and programs that support out-of-classroom learning for UNLV's more than 27,000 students.

Rebecca has published and presented nationally on such topics as organizational change, middle level education, teacher beliefs, and teacher development. She has also been featured in the National Forum of Teacher Education Journal and the National Forum of Applied Educational Research Journal. She is a recipient of several teaching awards including the Carnegie Foundation's Nevada Professor of the Year. She is active in the National Association of the Student Personnel Administrators (NASOA) serving Region V as the Public Policy Coordinator. She also belongs to the Association of College Personnel Administrators (ACPA) and has presented at several conferences.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Rebecca Mills, Ed.D for her accomplishments at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and applaud her for her contributions and dedication to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

HONORING TAIWAN'S OUTGOING PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN AND VICE-PRESIDENT ANNETTE LU

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Taiwan's outgoing President Chen Shui-Bian and Vice-President Annette Lu.

Chen Shui-Bian and Annette Lu became Taiwan's second elected President and Vice-President in the year 2000. Perhaps more importantly, however, their election signified the first peaceful transfer of power from the Chinese Nationalist Party or Kuomintang—which had imposed martial law and ruled Taiwan for over a half-century.

In many ways, President Chen and Vice-President Lu's rise to the highest offices in the country is, itself, the story of Taiwan.

President Chen and Vice-President Lu's paths crossed for the first time among difficult circumstances. Ms. Lu was facing sedition charges for her work on the staff of Formosa Magazine, which had been critical of the Kuomintang dictatorship. Chen Shui-Bian, a young lawyer at the time, was a member of her defense team.

Ms. Lu was ultimately convicted and spent more than five years in prison, but the sentence failed to break her will or extinguish her passion for bringing democracy to Taiwan.

Mr. Chen lost the case, but he was won over by his clients' ideals. The defendants and their lawyers subsequently became the core of the democratic opposition in Taiwan. And Mr. Chen too, would spend time in jail for his political beliefs.

But the democratic movement they helped to spark would ultimately triumph. Martial law was lifted in 1987, and by 1996 then-President Lee Teng-Hui had initiated democratic reforms that allowed for the direct election of Taiwan's President and Vice-President.

After the lifting of martial law in Taiwan, Mr. Chen became a member of the Taipei municipal council, and after the birth of multi-party

politics and the formation of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), he became the capital city's first popularly elected Mayor in 1994. And in 2000, his election as President of Taiwan marked the first peaceful, democratic transfer of power in the history of either Taiwan or China.

After her release from prison, Ms. Lu was elected to Taiwan's legislature and later, Magistrate of Taoyuan County—the equivalent of a Governor here in the United States. In 2000, she was elected as Vice-President on the DPP ticket with President Chen.

In the span of two decades, Mr. Chen and Ms. Lu had gone from political prisoners to political leaders. Ms. Lu's response to a TIME Magazine reporter's question shortly before she and Mr. Chen were inaugurated in 2000 perhaps summed up this amazing transformation best:

The reporter asked, "Fifteen years ago you were sitting in a jail cell as a political prisoner. When you take the oath of office, what thoughts will be going through your head?"

She responded, "What I'm proud of is that the same party, the KMT, that suppressed me 20 years ago will be transferring power to me, peacefully."

President Chen and Vice-President Lu spearheaded efforts to amend Taiwan's antiquated constitution to modernize Taiwan's fledgling democracy. They also conducted Taiwan's first ever citizens referendum—a milestone for democracy not just in Taiwan, but in all of Asia. Taiwan's voters rewarded the two for their diligence and commitment by re-electing them in 2004.

Under their leadership, Taiwan has deepened its democratic roots, and has become an even brighter beacon of democracy than when they first took office eight years ago. I hope that very soon, Madam Speaker, the people on the Chinese mainland will see that light, and emulate in that country what the Taiwanese have accomplished in their own.

Later this month, Mr. Ma Ying Jeou and Mr. Vincent Siew will be sworn in as Taiwan's new President and Vice President—signifying yet another peaceful transfer of power from one party to another in Taiwan.

So Madam Speaker, I rise to once again congratulate the people of Taiwan, and to recognize President Chen and Vice-President Lu for their contributions to democracy and human rights. I wish them both the best of luck as they leave office.

HONORING ALESIA HAMILTON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize, Ms. Alesia Hamilton, an

exemplary individual and first grade teacher at Edison Elementary in St. Joseph, Missouri.

In 2004, Ms. Hamilton, in accordance with her character of compassion and service, invited Mr. Alferd Williams, 70, into her class of 25 students in order that he may finally learn to read. Her generous nature and commitment to the task of working with Mr. Williams demonstrates her willingness to go above and beyond what is required as a public school teacher.

In accordance with my Resolution to recognize the roles and contributions of America's teachers through National Teacher Appreciation Week, I would like to take a moment to individually recognize Ms. Hamilton as an educator selflessly committed to the development of our nation's students.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alesia Hamilton for her service to America's students and for her efforts put forth in working with Mr. Williams. It is an honor to serve both of these individuals in the United States Congress.

IN HONOR OF POLISH
CONSTITUTION DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Polish American Congress, Ohio Division, as they celebrate Polish Constitution Day—a day where the Polish Community shares their rich culture with the Greater Cleveland Community.

The first written European constitution, the Governmental Statute of Poland, was instated on May 3, 1971. Poland's Constitution was the result of nearly five centuries of struggle and perseverance by the people of Poland to diminish the power of the King and to create facets and institutions of government vital to the foundation of a constitutional government. Formed in 1949, the Polish American Congress is a national umbrella organization representing over ten million Americans of Polish descent and origin, and serves as a unifying force for both Polish Americans and Polish citizens living in America. Cleveland's Polish American community is deeply rooted and prides itself on their commitment to the values of family, faith, democracy, hard work and fulfillment of the American dream.

The Polish American Congress strives to make Americans of Polish heritage more successful and involved U.S. citizens by encouraging them to assume the responsibilities of leadership. Since its foundation over sixty years ago, the group has created programs to successfully integrate people of Polish decent

in the U.S. and enrich Cleveland's social fabric. These programs include the Displaced Persons Program, which allowed almost 150,000 Polish immigrants to enter the U.S. after World War Two. The group also won American veterans benefits for Polish Veterans of both World War One and World War Two.

The Polish American Congress has played a crucial role in the Polish Community, and in its many years of support and service has been an invaluable contribution to the City of Cleveland and this nation. This year, the Greater Cleveland Community can celebrate Poland's rich history and culture by joining Cleveland's Polish community in attending events such as the Polonia Ball, the Grand Parade and the Photographic Exhibition.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of the leaders and members of the Polish American Congress, as they celebrate Polish Constitution Day and as they continue to promote and share their heritage, history and culture with the Greater Cleveland community.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today, I join with citizens around the world to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. On this day, we honor the European Jews who retained their human dignity in the midst of extreme suffering, and in many cases, offered passive resistance.

Some Jews opposed the Third Reich through participation in underground forces. In Warsaw, many banded together to fight the Nazis in the ghettos. Others used what meager means they had to preserve their culture. The U.S. Holocaust Museum, located just a few blocks from here, displays artwork and poetry created by Jews imprisoned in concentration camps—evidences of the prisoners' courage and resilience.

The genocide remains one of the darkest stains on the history of humanity and a testament to the strength of the Jewish people. As both a Member of Congress and a private citizen possessing a strong faith, I vow to always remember and respect those who suffered such a tragic fate.